

**REMARKS**

Reconsideration of the application in light of the following amendments is respectfully requested.

**Status of the Claims**

Claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, and 13 are pending.

Claims 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, and 12 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

Claims 1 and 3 have been amended. Support for the amendments can be found, for example, in the Specification on page 11, lines 18-19; page 14, lines 8-9; and page 14, lines 17-20. No new matter has been added.

**CONCLUSION**

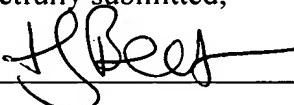
It is believed that claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, and 13 are in condition for allowance and it is respectfully requested that the application be reconsidered and that all pending claims be allowed and the case passed to issue.

If there are any issues remaining which the Examiner believes could be resolved through a Supplemental Response or an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Dated: July 6, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By \_\_\_\_\_



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